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EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, JULY, 1948.

INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT DURING JULY

During the month of July, 1948, the total number of wage earners in employment (exclusive of rural workers and females in private domestic service) rose by 2,900 to a total of 2,377,400. The rise during July, 1947 was 17,100. During June, 1948, it was 7,100. The number of males in employment rose by 2,400 during July, 1948 to a total of 1,733,200, and the number of females by 500 to 644,200.

CHANGES IN STATE FIGURES

The greater part of the rise occurred in Queensland, where there was an increase of 1,600 in the number of persons employed, mainly in the manufacturing, building and transport industries. Except in Tasmania, where there was a fall of 100, increases were also recorded in all other States. The number of males in employment fell in New South Wales and South Australia, while the number of females fell in Victoria and Tasmania.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

The number of employees of Commonwealth Government authorities fell by 300 during July, all of them females. State Government employment, however, rose slightly in all states, the total rise being 1,300, mainly in railways, works and hospitals.

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

The net increase of 2,900 in the total number of persons employed comprised increases of 200 in forestry, fishing and trapping, 1,300 in manufacturing, (of which 700 were in Queensland), 2,200 in building and construction (which increased in all states), and 800 in transport offset by decreases of 100 in property and finance, 800 in commerce, 600 in public administration and 100 in other industry. The increase in the transport industry was due to greater activity in the shipping and stevedoring class, while a seasonal decline in primary produce dealing accounted for the drop in employment in commerce.

INCREASED EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES.

The factory classes sharing in the increase in factory employment were:- treatment of non-metalliferous mine and quarry products, manufacture of bricks, pottery and glass, manufacture of clothing, sawmilling and other woodworking and furniture manufacture, and the manufacture of musical instruments and miscellaneous goods. The main increase (800 persons) occurred in clothing manufacture. Decreases were recorded in factories making chemicals, oils, paints, etc., in the metal manufacturing group (300) and in the manufacture of food, drink and tobacco (300).

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